

FAST WARSHIPS TO BE BUILT

THEY WILL BE DESIGNED TO WHIP
ANY FIGHTING VESSELS IN
THE WORLD.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Washington, Aug. 16.—The Navy Department will ask Congress to authorize the construction of the largest and most formidable battle-ships and cruisers afloat, vessels without equals in any foreign fleet, and incomparably superior in offensive power, speed and endurance to any of the magnificent ships which a few weeks ago destroyed Cervera's squadron. This decision, reached at a meeting of the Naval Board of Construction, to-day, will be urged upon Congress for prompt action, supported by arguments of the most convincing character.

The subject was taken up at the direction of Secretary Long, who desired to have a building programme thoroughly considered and agreed upon by the highest technical experts in the service, for presentation to the legislative branch of the Government in December. To-day's proceedings of the Board were marked by complete unanimity regarding the greatest needs of the Navy, and conspicuously showed what a great impression the recent sea fights have made upon the members, particularly as to the necessity for high speed.

As it was the first conference on this subject, only the general features of the proposed ships were taken into consideration, the working-out of details being left for the various experts to study and report upon to-morrow and at subsequent meetings. No impracticable schemes for suddenly developing a large number of new vessels or for an extensive programme, extending over several years, was discussed. The resources of the country, with the limited number and facilities of existing shipyards for building vessels of the highest type, were recognized at the outset, and it was decided that not more than six first-class ships could be begun at once, although any number of smaller vessels could be started without delay.

The Board practically agreed to begin the design of three battle-ships, of between 13,000 and 14,000 tons displacement, with at least nineteen knots maintained speed, a radical advance from the 11,325-ton sixteen-knot ships of the Alabama and Kearsarge class, which now represent the maximum-powered units of the American Navy. It was also determined to recommend three first-class cruisers, of about 12,000 tons and of not less than twenty-two knots speed, nearly half again as large as the New-York and the Brooklyn, and of from three to four knots greater speed. In addition to these, a class of protected and partly armored cruisers of between 5,000 and 6,000 tons, similar to the Olympia, Admiral Dewey's flagship, but of much higher speed, was favorably considered, as well as a new class of 2,500-ton cruisers, a little larger than the Detroit and the Marblehead, and smaller than the Atlanta and the Boston.

Every member of the Board warmly indorsed the necessity of speed in every one of these vessels in the interests of speed and economy, and to make them practically independent of drydocks. They will therefore be the first armored vessels of the United States to be built. The members of the Board are of the opinion that no more important naval lesson has been learned from the recent war than that of the rapid deterioration brought about by the line of warships in tropical waters through the accumulation of marine growth upon their hulls, reducing their speed in every instance after a few months more than 25 per cent, and in some instances as high as 50 per cent.

The question of gun caliber and armor on the new battle-ships and first-class cruisers is still unsettled, but the Chief of Ordnance, Captain O'Neill, who is president of the Board, announced his readiness to agree to a maximum caliber of twelve inches, if thereby a more widely extended disposition of armor could be obtained, with greater speed and greater coal endurance. He also favored an attempt to secure the unprecedented speed of twenty-four knots for the huge armored cruisers, and a minimum of twenty knots for the battle-ships.

The battle-ships will be designed to whip any fighting vessel in the world, of whatever class, and the cruisers are to be more formidable than any vessels of their speed designed up to this time in Europe. The Board made no reference to torpedo-boats, and is not disposed to recommend any further increase of the fifty-one vessels of that type now built or authorized.

REDUCING THE NAVAL FORCE.

Washington, Aug. 16.—The Acting Secretary of the Navy to-day informed the President that in view of the termination of hostilities the Navy Department has no further use for the vessels of the revenue cutter and lighthouse services which were taken into the Navy soon after the outbreak of the war. He recommends that they be restored to their usual duties under the Treasury Department. There are about twenty of these vessels, and they have rendered most efficient service in the prosecution of the war as dispatch boats, patrol boats, etc. Several of them, notably the Mangrove, were especially efficient in the conduct of the naval campaign in Cuban waters.

ALL MINES TO BE REMOVED.

GENERAL ORDER TO CLEAR THE HARBORS
OF SUBMARINE DEFENCES.

Washington, Aug. 16.—General Wilson, Chief of Engineers, to-day issued orders to the officers of that Department in charge of fortifications and works of defence to remove all mines, cables and electrical apparatus connected therewith in the harbors and rivers of the United States as rapidly as the work can be performed with regard to safety. These orders are supplementary to those issued a few weeks ago, immediately after the destruction of the Spanish fleet at Santiago, for the removal of certain submarine mines in various harbors alleged to be a dangerous interference to commerce. The original orders merely contemplated the temporary removal of the mines without interfering with the cable connections and electrical working apparatus on shore, the idea being to leave them in such condition that they could be speedily restored in case of an emergency. Now, however, that there is no longer any prospect of a renewal of hostilities with Spain or trouble with any other nation, the War Department has deemed it safe and expedient to remove entirely all the submarine defenses of the coast lines of the United States harbors.

ORDERED OUT OF SANTIAGO.

ALLEGED ACTS OF VIOLENCE BY MEMBERS
OF THE SECOND REGIMENT OF
IMMUNES.

Santiago de Cuba, Aug. 16.—General Shafter to-day ordered the 2d Volunteer Regiment of Immunes to leave the city and go into camp outside. The regiment had been placed there as a garrison, to preserve order and protect property.

There had been firing of arms inside the town by members of this regiment without orders, so far as known; some of the men have indulged in liquor until they have verged upon acts of license and disorder; the inhabitants, in some quarters, have alleged loss of property by force or intimidation, and there has grown up a feeling of uneasiness, if not of alarm.

General Shafter has, therefore, ordered this regiment into the hills, where discipline can be more severely and rigidly enforced.

In place of the 2d Volunteer Regiment of Immunes, General Shafter has ordered into the city the 8th Illinois Regiment of colored troops. In whose sobriety and discipline he has confidence, and of whose sturdy enforcement of order no doubt is felt by those in command.

MADRID APPARENTLY QUIET.

BLANCO ORDERED TO REMAIN AT HIS
POST—MANILA'S SURRENDER NOT
ANNOUNCED—HONORS FOR
FRENCH DIPLOMATS.

Madrid, Aug. 16.—The Cabinet has decided to order General Blanco and all the other Spanish Generals in the Antilles to remain at their respective posts until the evacuation is completed.

General Wesley Merritt, it is reported here, took the greatest precautions in order to prevent the insurgents from interfering with the capitulation of Manila or approaching the city.

The Madrid press fears that the surrender may affect Spain's position in the negotiations for the future government of the Philippines.

Señor Sagasta, on leaving the Palace this afternoon, denied that General Blanco and other Generals were opposing the Government's policy, as had been alleged.

It is now known, from semi-official sources, that the Government knew yesterday that Manila capitulated on Saturday, after General Jaimes had taken over the command from General Auguste and the latter had been authorized to quit his post and to embark on a foreign warship for Hong Kong.

Manila apparently capitulated because of lack of food, the population and garrison having suffered the greatest privations.

According to "El Tiempo," the organ of the Dissident Conservatives, Señor Silveira, the leader of that party, intends to block the Government's policy.

The Queen Regent has personally thanked the French Government for its good offices in obtaining peace, and has charged Leon y Castillo, the Spanish Ambassador at Paris, to inform M. Delcasse, the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, that Her Majesty has conferred upon him the Grand Cross of the Order of Carlos III.

A similar distinction is bestowed upon M. Patenôtre, the French Ambassador at Madrid.

"El Imparcial" publishes a letter from Havana, whose writer asserts that General Blanco had succeeded in hoodwinking the Americans as to Admiral Cervera's whereabouts, but that the Madrid Government "frustrated his plans by announcing the arrival of the squadron at Santiago de Cuba."

CAIBARIEN BOMBARDED.

NEWS OF PEACE PUTS AN END TO THE
MANGROVE'S ATTACK.

Havana, Aug. 15 (delayed in transmission).—Official advices from Caibarien, on the north coast, about five miles from Remedios, report that the United States gunboat Mangrove (formerly the lighthouse tender) bombarded the town on Sunday, from 10 o'clock in the morning until after 1 in the afternoon, firing eighty-seven shells at the fort and village. The Spanish gunboats Cauto and Intrepid, assisted by the gunboat Hernan Cortes, replied to the fire. The Hernan Cortes receiving three shells, one of which damaged her engines. The garrison sustained no loss and no damage was done to the village.

At 1:30 the Spanish gunboat Cauto, with a flag of truce, communicated to the Mangrove's commander the information that orders had been issued for a cessation of hostilities, and that the war was over.

The commander of the Mangrove delivered to the Spanish officer with the flag of truce the following acknowledgment, written in English, of the notification:

"Sir: I have received to-day from you a communication informing me that peace has been signed between the United States and Spain. I will deliver this communication to my chief commander at the first opportunity."

The Spaniards on board the Cauto were treated to refreshments and cigars by the Americans.

The Mangrove was aground for a time on Sunday, inside the port, awaiting high tide to float her off.

NO DISORDER IN THE CITY.

Havana, Aug. 16.—The city remains entirely tranquil. Everybody has resumed his ordinary duties, and all are thinking only of how to recover something of what has been lost.

Conservative natives, and particularly Spanish residents, realize not only the expediency, but the necessity of such steps as will save the social interests of the island, avoid future insurrections and prevent a complete annihilation of the wealth saved from revolution and war.

There is no agitation. The report that an attempt was made to shoot the British Consul is entirely without foundation.

TREATMENT OF THE CUBANS.

INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE SECRETARY OF
WAR TO GENERAL LAWTON.

Washington, Aug. 16.—The War Department this evening posted the following in reply to an inquiry from Major-General Lawton, commanding the Department of Santiago, for instructions as to the policy to be observed toward the Cubans that are within his military department.

Commanding General, Department of Santiago, Santiago de Cuba.

Replying to your message for instructions, the President directs that you be informed that the United States is responsible for peace and must maintain order in the territory surrendered, and in your department, and must protect all persons and their property within said jurisdiction. Interference from any quarter will not be permitted. The Cuban insurgents should be treated justly and liberally, but they, with all others, must recognize the military occupation and authority of the United States and the cessation of hostilities proclaimed by this Government. You should see the insurgent leaders and so advise them.

By order of the Secretary of War.

H. C. CORBIN, Adjutant-General.

LEE TO RETURN TO HIS COMMAND.

Washington, Aug. 16.—General Fitzhugh Lee had a brief conference with the President to-day, and later arranged to leave for his command at Jacksonville to-morrow. He vouchsafed no further explanation of his conference here, other than the desire of the President to consult with him over the conditions in Cuba.

CUBAN THIEF KILLED BY SENTRY.

Santiago de Cuba, Aug. 15 (delayed in transmission).—Early this morning a Cuban was shot by a sentry who caught him stealing commissary stores at the dock. Yesterday it was discovered that enough goods had been stolen to make three cartloads, which had been taken out surreptitiously by the Cubans in the field.

The man under suspicion returned to the wharf last night, evidently with the intention of continuing his thefts, but he was warned off.

This morning he was again found there. When the sentry challenged him he ran, refusing to obey the order to halt. As he was likely to escape the sentry fired, and killed him.

The occurrence is regretted by General Wood and the American officers generally, but it will probably have a salutary effect, as raids on the commissary and the medical and Red Cross stores have been altogether too frequent to be tolerated any longer.

FRAMING THE CIVIL LAWS.

CONFERENCE ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF
CUBA, PORTO RICO AND THE
PHILIPPINES.

Washington, Aug. 16.—Gradually the framework of a government for the civil administration of affairs in Cuba, Porto Rico and such portions of the Philippines as this Government controls is being formed. The development of this plan of internal administration occupied much of the attention of the Cabinet to-day, and later Secretary Gage, Attorney-General Griggs, Postmaster-General Smith and Acting Secretary of State Moore held a two-hour conference at the State Department, going over the infinite detail of establishing a civil administration. General Corbin was present part of the time.

At the outset the military authorities will be in charge of all administrative affairs in Cuba, Porto Rico and other acquired possessions. But the military forces can do little more than direct the orderly execution of affairs. The carrying on of postal communication, the collection of customs, etc., are civil functions, which will be taken in hand by the appropriate bureaus here, the entire work being under the protection of the military authorities.

The result of the conference to-day will be made known through the various departments. Already steps have been taken to restore mail communication between this country and Cuba, but the plans now under consideration are likely to take in the question of handling mail inside of Cuba, Porto Rico and other details. A mail steamer will leave New-York to-morrow, carrying the first lot of mail to Cuba which has left New-York since the war began.

The Spanish Government has been quite solicitous as to the method of administering affairs in the Antilles, owing to the large Spanish interests remaining there. The French Ambassador has received a number of inquiries in this line, and these have been laid before the State Department. After the conference held there this afternoon M. Thibault, of the French Embassy, called and was made acquainted with the general plans of this Government for restoring a stable administration throughout the Spanish West Indies.

The French Ambassador has also been advised by the State Department of its selection of military commissions to meet at Havana and San Juan. The names of these commissioners have been awaited at Madrid, as it is in the purpose there to appoint Spanish commissioners of the same rank as those named by the United States.

During the day the Government began an effort, through diplomatic channels, to re-establish cable communication with Manila. It was believed by officials to-night that the efforts would prove successful, although some days may elapse before the diplomatic representations have borne fruit. The cable out of Manila is under the control of a British company. The line is understood to be cut near Manila, but Admiral Dewey has bought the severed ends, so that a connection can be restored if the company will permit the line to be operated. Pending the renewal of this cable route the authorities here remain without direct advice from the reported bombardment and surrender of Manila last Saturday. The fact that the city has passed into American hands is accepted as practically certain by the authorities here, although there is nothing yet from Admiral Dewey or General Merritt.

It is expected that a dispatch boat may bring advices to Hong Kong at any time, as a move of this important character would not be allowed to pass without getting speedy communication with Washington. As a German cruiser has made the trip from Manila since the reported surrender, it is probable that an American ship is not far behind with full information.

TOOK THE MESSAGE TO SAN JUAN.

THE NEW-ORLEANS UNABLE TO ENTER
THE HARBOR.

Ponce, Porto Rico, Aug. 16.—The American cruiser New Orleans attempted to enter the harbor at San Juan de Porto Rico yesterday under a flag of truce, with a notification of the signing of the protocol, but was unable to do so on account of the sunken wreck at the entrance. Her captain went ashore in a small boat and was graciously received by Captain-General Macias, who accepted an invitation to dine on board the cruiser.

General Miles and his staff, escorted by Troop A, of the New-York, will visit General Wilson at the front to-morrow and may remain there for several days.

SPANIARDS MASSACRE NATIVES.

NINETY KILLED BECAUSE THEY RAISED AN
AMERICAN FLAG—ENGINEERS ARRIVE.

Ponce, Porto Rico, Aug. 15.—While thus further at the Spanish and American outposts, and all is quiet.

The first report of outrages by the Spaniards within their lines was brought to the headquarters of General Wilson to-day by a priest, who headed a deputation from Ciales, twenty miles northeast of Utuado.

The inhabitants of the place raised an American flag after the Spanish troops had left the town. The troops returned, tore down the flag and massacred ninety of the inhabitants. This occurred on Saturday. The priest appealed to the Americans for protection, but the latter are powerless to interfere in the present circumstances, even though a token of terror be begun.

The Chester, with the 1st Engineers, Colonel Griffith commanding, arrived here to-day. Batteries A and C, of the Pennsylvania Light Artillery, the Governor's Troop, and Sheridan Troop disembarked from the Manitoba and are encamped on the outskirts of the town. No disposition of these troops has yet been decided upon. The Columbia will sail to-night for New-York, by way of St. Thomas and Key West.

GENERAL GRANT REACHES PONCE.

Washington, Aug. 16.—Late to-night Adjutant-General Corbin received a cable dispatch announcing the arrival this evening at Ponce, Porto Rico, of the transport Alamo, having on board General Fred D. Grant and staff and part of the 1st Kentucky Regiment, commanded by Colonel Castleman. All told, the Alamo had on board about six hundred and fifty men. General Corbin was also advised this evening of the arrival at Ponce of the transport Chester with the 1st Volunteer Engineers.

DEPARTMENT OF PORTO RICO.

Washington, Aug. 16.—Arrangements are being made at the War Department for the establishment of a new military department on the island of Porto Rico, similar to those recently established in the Province of Santiago de Cuba and in the Philippines. The new department will be known as "the Department of Porto Rico," and will be commanded by Major-General John R. Brooke, now with the army of occupation in that territory.

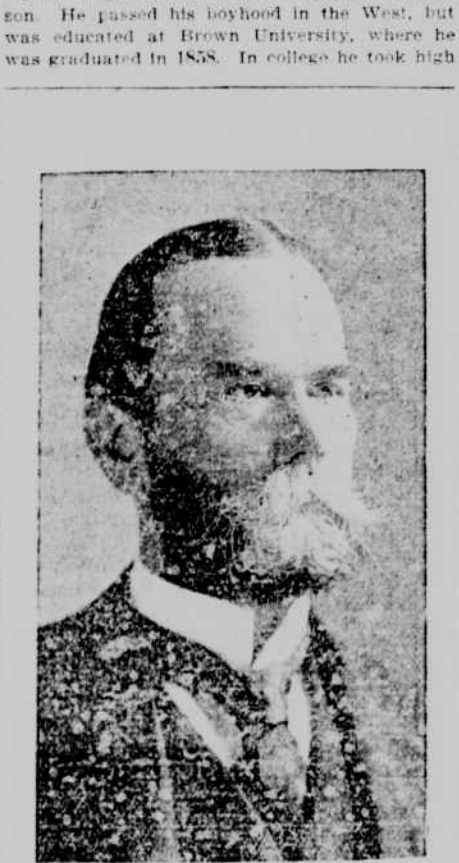
AMBASSADOR HAY ACCEPTS.

HE WILL SUCCEED MR. DAY AS SECRETARY
OF STATE.

Washington, Aug. 16.—Ambassador Hay, at London, has accepted the office of Secretary of State, to succeed Mr. Day, who has been appointed to a place on the Peace Commission.

John Hay was born in Salem, Ind., October 8, 1838. He comes of a family descended from John Hay, who was the son of a Scotch soldier in the army of the Elector Palatine, in Germany, and who emigrated to America about the middle of the last century, with four sons, one of whom, Adam, served with distinction in the Revolution, and was a friend and associate of Washington. Adam's son, John Hay, moved from Kentucky to Illinois to escape the disgrace of living in a slave State, with all his family, except his son Charles, who studied medicine and settled in Salem, Ind. He married a daughter of the Rev. David A. Leonard, of Rhode Island.

John Hay, Ambassador to England, was his son. He passed his boyhood in the West, but was educated at Brown University, where he was graduated in 1858. In college he took high

COLONEL JOHN HAY.
Who has been appointed Secretary of State.

rank as a writer, in a class that numbered several brilliant men who have since become well known in various walks of life. After his graduation young Hay studied law in Abraham Lincoln's office in Springfield, Ill. He was admitted to practice in that State in 1861. His faithfulness and ability had made such an impression on Mr. Lincoln that upon his election to the Presidency he appointed the young student his private secretary, with Mr. Nicolay. He accompanied Lincoln on his memorable journey from Springfield to Washington, and during the ensuing years, when the office of private secretary was of exceptional importance, he stood in the most intimate and confidential relations with the President, living at the White House and being with him constantly. Mr. Hay also acted as his adjutant and aide-de-camp, and served for several months under General Hunter and General Gillmore, with the rank of major and adjutant-general. He was also brevetted lieutenant and lieutenant-colonel.

After Lincoln's assassination Colonel Hay was made Secretary of Legation to the American Ministers at Paris, and between the years 1865 and 1867 was several times in charge. The following year he was chargé d'affaires in Vienna, after which he resigned and returned to America, but was soon afterward appointed Secretary of Legation at Madrid under General Daniel F. Sickles. Colonel Hay retained this post about two years, and while occupying it wrote a charming book, entitled "Castilian Days."

In 1870 Colonel Hay returned to the United States and became an editorial writer on The Tribune. Here he remained about five years. He was afterward in editorial charge of The Tribune for seven months, during Whitelaw Reid's absence in Europe. In 1875 he removed to Cleveland, Ohio, having married the daughter of Amasa Stone, of that city. He took an active part in politics, especially in the Presidential campaigns, and spoke frequently on the stump. By President Hayes he was made First Assistant Secretary of State in 1870, which office he filled for two years. In 1881 he represented the United States at the International Sanitary Congress in Washington, and was elected president of that body. At the end of President Hayes's Administration Colonel Hay returned to Cleveland, to take up his work on the life of Lincoln, in connection with Mr. Nicolay. For several years he has made his home in Washington, where he has been one of the leaders in the brilliant intellectual circles of the capital.

Colonel Hay has won even more repute by his literary work than by his activity in politics and diplomacy. His most important book is the "Life of Lincoln," written in collaboration with John G. Nicolay, which was published first as a serial in "The Century," and later in several volumes. It embodies the intimate knowledge of Lincoln and of his career gained by his private secretaries' personal observation and participation in a large part of the stirring events with which it deals, and is regarded as a contribution to American history of the first importance. Colonel Hay's poems had previously gained for him a wide reputation as a keen humorist and sympathetic observer of human nature. His "Pike County Ballads" were published in 1871. "Jim Bindoo" and "Little Breaches" becoming exceedingly popular. A complete collection of his poems was published in 1890. His "Castilian Days," studies of Spanish life and character, the fruit of his sojourn in Spain as a diplomatic officer of the United States, appeared in 1871.

Colonel Hay was nominated Ambassador to England on March 16, 1887, and during his residence at the Court of St. James has been particularly acceptable, both to the English and to the American people.

MRS. MILES TO JOIN HER HUSBAND.

Newport News, Va., Aug. 16 (Special).—The transport Odam will sail to-morrow evening for Porto Rico, by way of Charleston. On her will go Mrs. Nelson A. Miles, wife of the General commanding the United States Army, and her daughter, Miss Minnie Miles, Captain Sherman, son of General W. T. Sherman, who is a chaplain in the Army, and Major Goffra, of the Hospital Corps, who comes from Buffalo.

The captain of the Odam received orders from Washington this afternoon to prepare immediately accommodations aboard the ship for Mrs. Miles and her daughter, and their apartments are now being furnished. They will arrive here to-morrow morning from Washington.

THE PEACE COMMISSION.

SENATOR ALLISON DECLINES AN APPOINTMENT
PRESIDENT LOOKING
FOR A DEMOCRATIC MEMBER.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]
Washington, Aug. 16.—Senator Allison, who arrived in Washington last night in response to an invitation to confer with President McKinley in regard to the American membership of the Peace Commission, spent some time at the White House this forenoon, and expects to start for his home to-morrow morning. It is not a secret that the President strongly desired the Iowa Senator to accept a place on the Commission, and he probably would have done so had it not been for the multitude and pressing nature of his other duties.

In the course of conversation this afternoon Mr. Allison said: "I now have more work than I can get through with. As chairman of the Committee on Appropriations, my time is pretty fully occupied, especially when Congress is in session, and the Peace Commission may not be able to finish its work before Congress re-assembles in December. I am also a member of the Finance Committee, and I have a good deal of special work to do there. Besides, there are a good many other matters that claim a considerable share of my time."

Senator Allison, in reply to a question, said that there appeared to be a strong and growing sentiment and demand in the West in favor of the retention of the Philippines, as well as of all other territory captured from Spain by the United States. He left the impression, however, that it might, perhaps, be appeased by the permanent retention of Manila Bay and City, with the possible addition of the entire island of Luzon.

Rourke Cockran, of New-York, was present during a part of the interview between Senator Allison and the President. His services in the McKinley campaign, along with other circumstances, gave rise to speculation that he had been summoned here by the President in connection with the making up of the Peace Commission. Mr. Cockran asserted, however, that he was here solely on private business, and merely called to pay his respects. "I am not a candidate for any office, and no offer, direct or indirect, of any sort of an appointment has been made to me," he added.

It is also understood that the President has tendered to Senator Gorman, of Maryland, a place on the Commission, and that he has declined the offer.

The President now, it is stated, is looking about for another Democratic Senator to take the place of Senator Gorman. The President is desirous of securing a Democrat from the upper house of Congress.

PLANS FOR PEACE IN SPAIN.

THE COUNCIL DISCUSSES THE APPOINTMENT
OF COMMISSIONERS.

Madrid, Aug. 16.—Today's Cabinet Council was almost exclusively occupied in considering the details of the return of the troops. The question of convoking the Cortes was postponed until the next meeting of the Cabinet. The Council to-day also discussed the appointment of a peace commission. Captain Amon, the Minister of Marine, says that the United States Government has expressed a desire that the Commission shall be composed of the most important men in diplomatic and political circles.

Duke Almodovar de Rio, the Foreign Minister, denies that he is opposed to the nomination of Señor Moret, Minister of the Colonies in the preceding Cabinet, as one of the commissioners. The Foreign Minister adds that he could not be hostile to a nomination which had not yet been proposed.

It is asserted in well-informed quarters to-night that Señor Sagasta will provoke a crisis over the question of convoking the Cortes, on which the Ministers still disagree.

The Italian Ambassador, on behalf of his Government, has expressed to Spain his satisfaction over the cessation of hostilities, and the earnest wish that, after having fought with honor, Spain may enjoy the blessings of peace.

KNOTTY PROBLEMS TO SOLVE.

Washington, Aug. 16 (Special).—In conversation to-day with a Tribune correspondent a prominent and influential public man, of long and varied experience, whose name has been pretty generally mentioned in connection with the Peace Commission, remarked in substance:

"I believe that we are just entering on some of the most difficult and knotty problems growing out of the war with Spain, especially in regard to the situation in Cuba. We are under bonds, not only to other nations, but to the people of the United States, to see that peace is restored, life and property protected, and turmoil and anarchy prevented. Many millions of American capital have been invested in Cuba, and the total will be enormously increased within a short time. In addition to that, our commercial relations with the people of the island, Spaniards as well as Cubans, are very extensive, and will rapidly grow more intimate and important. A thorough reconstruction of society, as well as of the government, must take place, and, judging by the present indications, as well as from past history, the Cuban people as a whole will not be equal to it, without assistance. I expect, therefore, that it will be found necessary for the United States to keep a military force in the island for several years to come, and until the people there have developed a greater capacity for self-government, as we understand it than they now seem to possess."

There is reason to believe that the views thus expressed are shared, in the main, by some members of the Administration, as well as by prominent and influential leaders in both branches of Congress, irrespective of their party affiliations and sympathies.

COUNT CASINI'S CONGRATULATIONS.

Washington, Aug. 16.—Besides the congratulatory note of the Italian Ambassador, felicitating the Government of the United States on the signature of the preliminary of peace with Spain, the Secretary of State received last Saturday night a telegram from Count Casini, Ambassador of Russia, dated at Narraansett Pier, tendering his congratulations upon the conclusion of the protocol, which, according to the memorandum issued by the State Department giving this information, "assures a peace alike glorious to this country and honorable to her adversary of yesterday."

FIRST STEAMER TO SAIL FOR HAVANA.

THE SCHLESWIG LEAVES PORT LOADED WITH
PROVISIONS—TREMENDOUS TRAFFIC WITH
CUBA PREDICTED.

The first steamship to sail for Havana direct from this port left yesterday morning from Pier No. 6, North River. She is the Munson Line steamship Schleswig, and she is loaded with provisions. A good-sized crowd curiously watched her as she steamed away. The Bratten, of the same line, will sail for Cardenas to-day, and the Matanzas, of the Ward Line, will resume the Havana service of that line to-day. The Matanzas was formerly the Spanish prize steamer Guido. It was said yesterday at the Ward Line office that so many persons had tried to engage passage for Havana that many of them would have to wait until later steamer sailed.

There was a great rush yesterday on the part of provision houses and restaurants to get their products aboard the steamers sailing for Cuba. All day long and late into the night the docks were crowded with trucks bringing all sorts of provisions to load aboard the steamers. The officials of the lines sailing to Cuba said that there was every prospect of tremendous exports to that island for some time to come.

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STORMING OF MANILA.

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